HRA Freedom of Information Law Office <foil@hra.nyc.gov>

6/6/2017 12:49 PM

RE: FOIL # 17-188 (Landlord info – one shot deals and investigations)

To louis.flores@progressqueens.com <'louis.flores@progressqueens.com'>

Dear Mr. Flores,

I write in further response to your Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request, received April 28, 2017, seeking records for 2016 showing (i) the names of Landlords and (ii) amounts paid to Landlords under the "One Shot Deal" cash assistance program for tenants; and records for 2016 showing (i) the names of Landlords investigated or referred for investigation for any housing or code violations, (ii) the names of Landlords investigated or referred for investigation of any violations of fair housing laws, and (iii) the names of Landlords investigated or referred for investigation for tenant harassment or violation of civil procedure during any Housing Court actions against tenants.

Please be advised that "one shot deal" is not a legal term, but is used to refer to rent arrear payments (other than Family Eviction Prevention Supplement (FEPS) payments). The total non-FEPS rent arrear payments issued for calendar year 2016 was \$214,475,602.

However, the names of landlords receiving such payments is being withheld as releasing it would be an unwarranted invasion of their personal privacy, and also a violation of Public Officers Law, Article 6, § 87(2)(b).

Finally, after a diligent search, no records were found containing the names of landlords investigated or referred for investigation for housing or code violations, for violations of fair housing laws, or for tenant harassment or violation of civil procedure during a Housing Court action against tenants. (Please note that files pertaining to individual clients were not included in this search, as such files and the information contained therein is in fact not subject to release under FOIL. See Public Officers Law §87(2) (a); Social Services Law §136. Similarly, files which would be covered by attorney-client privilege were not included in this search.)

I hope you find this information helpful. Please feel free to call or email with any questions or concerns.

Should you choose to appeal this decision, please send your written appeal to DSS/DHS' Appeal Officer, Martha Calhoun, Office of Legal Affairs, Department of Social Services, 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 38th floor, New York, New York 10007, or by email at http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/about/foil-request.page within 30 days in accordance with POL § 89(4)(a).

Sincerely,

Avraham Schmeidler | FOIL Assistant
OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS
150 Greenwich Street, 38th Floor, New York, NY 10007
T: 929-221-5431
schmeidlera@hra.nyc.gov | NYC.gov/dss



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From: Schmeidler, Avraham

Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 3:58 PM **To:** <u>'louis.flores@progressqueens.com'</u>

Subject: FOIL # 17-188 (Landlord info – one shot deals and investigations)

May 5, 2017

Sent via EMAIL: louis.flores@progressqueens.com

Louis Flores

34-21 77th Street, Apt. 406 Jackson Heights, NY 11372

FOIL Request #17-188

Re: FOIL Request: Landlord info – one shot deals and investigations

Dear Mr. Flores:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request, received April 28, 2017, seeking records for 2016 showing (i) the names of Landlords and (ii) amounts paid to Landlords under the "One Shot Deal" cash assistance program for tenants; and records for 2016 showing (i) the names of Landlords investigated or referred for investigation for any housing or code violations, (ii) the names of Landlords investigated or referred for investigation of any violations of fair housing laws, and (iii) the names of Landlords investigated or referred for investigation for tenant harassment or violation of civil procedure during any Housing Court actions against tenants.

Please be advised that we are now in the process of determining the availability and/or releasability of the records you seek. However, due to the number of requests received by this office and the resulting volume of work, some delay could be expected in the processing of your request. Nonetheless, a response regarding the availability of records responsive to your request can be expected on or before June 2, 2017.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Avraham Schmeidler | FOIL Assistant

OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

150 Greenwich Street, 38th Floor, New York, NY 10007

T: 929-221-5431

schmeidlera@hra.nyc.gov | NYC.gov/dss



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